



# Town of Groton, Connecticut

## Meeting Agenda

45 Fort Hill Road  
Groton, CT 06340-4394  
Town Clerk (860)441-6640  
Town Manager (860)441-6630

### Representative Town Meeting

*Moderator Natalie B. Billing, Representatives Joe Baril, Tom Barnhart, Lori Bartinik, Alicia Bauer, Genevieve Cerf, Michael Collins, Syma Ebbin, June Evered, Peter Fairbank, Robert Garcia, Patrice Granatosky, Dolores Harrell, Keith Hedrick, Debra Jenkins, James Loughlin, Carole McCarthy, Kevin McMahon, Richard Metayer, David Miner, Deborah Monteiro, Betsy Moukawsher, James Moulding, Scott Newsome, Nora Patterson, Deborah Peruzzotti, Robert Post, Kevin Power, Don Pratt, Mary-Ellen Schefers, Eleanor Scussel, Jack Sebastian, Jennifer Smuts, Eleanor Steere, Joan Steinfeld, Irma Streeter, Mark Svencer, Patti Thunberg, Cheryl Tilney, Kevin Trejo, and Tom Vivirito.*

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Wednesday, October 10, 2007

7:30 PM

Senior Center

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### Regular Meeting

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- A. ROLL CALL
- B. MOMENT OF SILENCE AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG
- C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2007
- D. CITIZENS' PETITIONS

This is the portion of the RTM agenda where the RTM welcomes comments from citizens. Each presentation should be limited to ten minutes or less, and citizens should, if possible, submit written comments. Presentations should be limited to matters pertinent

- E. RECEPTION OF COMMUNICATIONS
- F. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER:

- 1. Financial report
- 2. Monthly briefing

- G. LIAISON REPORTS

- 1. Town Council - Rep. Monteiro
- 2. Economic Development Commission - Rep. Cerf
- 3. Town Council/Board of Education/RTM Liaison Committee - Rep. Patterson
- 4. Permanent School Building Committee - Rep. Miner
- 5. School Design Committee Phase II - Reps. Smuts & Harrell
- 6. Shellfish Task Force - Rep. Ebbin
- 7. Flanders Road Utility Extension Committee - Rep. Bauer

- H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1. FINANCE
  - a. Chairman's notes on the business of the Town - Chairman Granatosky
- 2. COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

a. Chairman's notes on the business of the Town - Chairman Vivirito

3. EDUCATION

a. Chairman's notes on the business of the Town - Chairman Patterson

4. HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

a. Chairman's notes on the business of the Town

5. RECREATION

a. Chairman's notes on the business of the Town- Chairman Power

6. PUBLIC SAFETY

a. Chairman's notes on the business of the Town - Chairman Pratt

7. PUBLIC WORKS

a. Chairman's notes on the business of the Town - Chairman Collins

2007-0218 Additional Appropriation for Catherine Kolnaski School

RESOLUTION APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF  
THE CATHERINE KOLNASKI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton approved Ordinance No. 258 at referendum on April 27, 2004, which appropriated \$26,100,000 and authorized borrowing in the same amount for construction of a new elementary school on a parcel of Town owned land known as the King property, and

WHEREAS, construction activity on the project began in August 2006, and

WHEREAS, Town and Board of Education staff and the Permanent School Building Committee have monitored the progress of the project in an effort to identify cost savings, and

WHEREAS, a number of unexpected and unbudgeted costs have impacted the project, including modification of window specifications and other related costs, the need to reconfigure space into a classroom, the need to install a fire pump, and the desire to increase the original budgeted amount for technology, which would require an additional \$492,058 to be added to the project budget, and

WHEREAS, the Permanent School Building Committee at its September 6, 2007 meeting unanimously endorsed a \$500,000 increase in funding for the Catherine Kolnaski School project, and

WHEREAS, as of July 31, 2007 there is an unreserved, undesignated fund balance in the Capital Reserve Fund (#501) of \$1,505,176, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council desires to use \$500,000 of that amount to fund expenditures within the Catherine Kolnaski Elementary School construction project, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council appropriates \$500,000 to a FYE 2008 Capital Improvement Project (#50107) for that intended purpose.

Legislative History

9/4/2007 Town Council Committee of  
the Whole

Recommended for a  
Resolution

9/11/2007 Town Council

Adopted, and Referred

Representative Town Meeting

MOTION to AMEND

A Motion to Amend the figure of \$492,058 to \$500,000 was made by Councilor Bartinik, seconded by

*Councilor Kolnaski.*

*Councilor O'Beirne asked how much of that \$500,000 was due to new technology. The Town Manager said that there was no definitive number for technology yet as the package was being rebid. He stated that Greg Smalley from the architectural firm estimated that another \$45,000 for technology would be needed in addition to the budgeted \$450,000 for a total of \$495,000. Regarding the playscapes, the Town Manager noted that some of that money is going to pay for the new windows. He expressed some dismay at the fire pump situation and does not understand how that happened. He also noted that many budgeted line items have been cut to pay for the windows, including funds for "FF&E."*

**MOTION to AMEND**

*A Motion to Amend the amount to \$455,000 was made by Councilor O'Beirne, seconded by Councilor Sheets.*

*Councilor O'Beirne believes that the additional \$45,000 should come out of the current 2008 Education budget, and that there are hundreds of thousands of dollars in the Education budget that could be used to cover this cost.*

*Councilor Sheets asked other questions about the Education budget.*

*Town Manager Oefinger replied that it was his understanding that the school budget does not include funds to specifically outfit the new school with technology.*

*Wes Greenleaf noted that funds were not in the Education budget for that purpose, and that there may be complications regarding reimbursement from the State for equipping the new schools.*

*Councilor Bartinik asked what was happening with the technology equipment in the old schools. Mr. Greenleaf explained the space issues due to the old technology being "wired" and the new laptops being "wireless." This greatly effected the amount of space that is necessary in each classroom.*

*The Town Manager distributed a handout answering previous-asked questions about computers.*

*Vote on the Motion to Amend to \$455,000 failed with one in favor (O'Beirne), and six opposed.*

**Discussion on the first Amendment of \$500,000:**

*Councilor Scott wondered why the amount is being increased by about \$8000. Town Manager Oefinger responded that the more specific amount (\$492,058) implied that there were hard numbers for items when that was really just a first estimate.*

*Councilor O'Beirne objects to the implication that the Council "must" appropriate this amount of money, especially when we still don't what the technology will cost.*

*Councilor Kolnaski believes that the Permanent School Building Committee has studied this, and knows that the money is needed.*

*Chairman DeMatto was recognized by Councilor Scott. He says that this is not an exact science, but that the new number is reasonable. He and the Committee will make sure that the budget stays within this total amount.*

*Mr. Greenleaf pointed out that technology had already been reduced, resulting in one computer per 4 students at Kolnaski School.*

*Vote on the Motion to Amend to \$500,000 passed with 6 in favor, one opposed (O'Beirne).*

9/12/2007

Representative Town Meeting

Referred

RTM Public Works Committee

## **8. RULES & PROCEDURES**

### **a. Chairman's notes on the business of the Town**

#### **I. OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **J. ADJOURNMENT**